visited India recently to review the progress of two German-akled projects in India for the elimination of child labour ;

(b) whether Government are aware of a marked slump in imports of carpets by Germany from India, in view of the German buyers' resentment of a large number of child labour engaged by Indian carpet industry ; and

(c) whether as a part of this German-aided project, pre-project surveys have been completed in three child labour project areas namely; Carpet Industry (Mizapur-Bhadohi), Gemstone polishing (Jaipur) and Match Industry (Sivakasi) and if so, the summary of the survey reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no slump in imports of carpets by Germany from India.

(c) Two surveys on "Child Labour in The Carpet Industry m Mirzapur-Bhadohi" and "Child Labour in Gem Polishing Industry of Jaipur were carried out by the International Labour Organisation, New Delhi as a preliminary activity of the German aided project "Child Labour Action & Support Programme". Both the surveys have analysed the nature of the specific industry, the reason for prevalance of child labour in the industry, strategy of special schools taken up under the National Child Labour Policy, etc.

Retrenchment of Workers under Exit Policy

355. PROF. SAURIN BHATTA-CHARYYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers retrenched or whose services were dispensed with under the exit policy during the last three years including the current year;

(b) what would be the number of fresh employment in existing factories and new ones if any ;

(c) whether Govemment have any ptens to secure reinstatement of workers men tioned above; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) There is no policy in the Govt, which can be termed "Exit Policy". However in order to rationalise workforce central public sector undertakings have so far adopted Voluntary Retirement Scheme. According to the available information during the last 3 years namely, 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, 78,562 employees have opted for Voluntary Retirement Scheme in 100 central public sector undertakings.

The Govt, has established the National Renewal Fund to protect the interest of workers who may be affeced by technological transformation under the new In-duslrial Policy. One of the objectives of the National Renewal Fund is to provide assistance to cover the cost of retraining and redeployment of employees as a result of modernisation, technological upgradation and industrial restructuring.

The major thrust of the 8th Five Year Plan is on employment. The 8th Five Year Plan emphasises faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas, which have relatively high employment potential. Faster growth of the small and decentralised manufacturing sector, expansion of infrastructure, development of rural non-farm sector, wasteland development, crop-wise diversified agricultural development, etc. are the basic elements of the employment oriented growth strategy envisaged in the Plan. The employment strategy is expected to generate 42.5 million additional employment opportunities during the period 1992—97. Of this, 6.5 million are expected to be generated in the manufacturing sector. *

Provident Fund Scheme for Beedi Worker

356. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI- Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Provident Fund Scheie for Beedi Workers throughout the country

Ob) whether Government also propose to provide Housing Scheme to these Beedi workers ;

(c) if so, what is the number of Beedi workers likely to be covered under the scheme;

(d) the amount of money likely to be spent for the purpose ;

(e) what is the total amount to be spent on Beedi workers in Madhya Pradesh which has highest number of Beedi workers ;

(f) the extent to which these schemes have been implemented ; and

(g) what is the share of Madhya Pra desh in the contribution made from the Contributory Fund and also from the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FABOUR (SHRI I. A. SANGMA : (a) The Employees' Provident Fund Scheme. 1952 is already applicable to the Beedi Workers throughout the Country since 31st May, 1977.

(b) to (g) Under the Build Your Own House Scheme (BYOHS) assistance in terms of loans and subsidy is provided to Beedi Workers from the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. Assistance in terms of subsidy is also provided to the State Government under the Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Sections (HSEWS) of the Beedi Workers. Under the HSEWS, total number of houses sanctioned for Madhya' Pradesh has been to the extent of 2400, out of which 1341 houses have been constructed. The expenditure on these housing schemes are dependant on the proposals which are received from the individuals under the BYOHS and from the State Government under the HSEWS. Based on the number of applications likely to be received, budget provision is made. A provision of Rs. 208 lakh has been made in the Budget Estimate for 1993-94 for incurring expenditure on housing and other activities under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund.

Recovery of Provident Fund Arrears

357. SHRI MENT AY P ADMAN A-BilAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employ yees Provident Fund Authority has dec lared Rs. 181.25 crores of Provident Fund arrears an non-recoverable;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to recover the Provident Fund arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not -arise.

बीड़ी श्रमिकों को पहचान पत्र जारी करना

358. श्री महेश्वर सिंह : क्या श्रम मंत्री 9 अगस्त, 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1802 में दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्य सरकारों में भारत सरकार के निर्णय के अनुसार देश में सभी बीड़ी श्रमिकों को पहचान-पत्र जारी कर दिये हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है और वे कौन-कौन से राज्य हैं जहां यह कार्य अभी भी पूरा नहीं किया गया है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा) : (क) और (ख) एक विवरण संलग्न है ।